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ATTACHMENT D

C. JANUARY 1958

Dear Edgar

Thank you for your letters. I am always very happy to receive news about the old sports friends. The many years spent among foreign people, and the large expenses^a of sea and land, have not broken your joy of living. It seems to me quite recently, ~~only~~ as though only yesterday, that we met at the corner of Indranu iela. How quickly those long years^{have} gone by (now we already count them by decades), especially if we look at our children. But the memories still remain with us. And how wonderful it is that our ardent sportsman^{souls} ~~scouts~~ have not withered away under the bright sun of South America, or in the cold north. Please don't be angry at me for not writing to you. In my thoughts I often send you greetings across the Andes. Perhaps you don't quite understand some of the things, and besides everything looks quite differently when seen from a distance than it does close by.

You are probably interested in what the old boys are doing. ^{Alfonso} ~~Alfonso~~ Berzins Pedrako has been travelling around for many years. ~~Alfonso~~ Berzins was one of the main contestants only yesterday in a speed-skating contest, his picture was in the paper together with the winners. ⁵ ~~5~~ Lasma Avotina and Arija Gaillige. The little Voldins (Vitols) lives in Valmiera. ¹² ~~12~~ Erika [several words illegible] ^{Tizners (?) son is a good skater.} Romanovskis has become a writer. ^[7] Ilgais has become interested in horse races and also lives in Valmiera. Albitis is active in sports as always and lives in Riga,

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Laimdotas iela No. 13 (you were interested in him). Of course many of them are no longer around. I have also not been able to find Aimins [Armins?] Lauris. Jekabsons and Rita [?] work as trainers in Riga. In general, Riga has become much larger (1 million population) and a lot more of the young people are active in sports. Arnolds Berzins has not returned, nor has Dubop^xskis and Adamovics. They are together with Robert Plume. Therefore, he has not been able to hear the happy news about your Juris. (LAIPENIEKS) (201-).
J. D^minza is also with them.

I personally work at the "Daugava". That is something like a club similar to your "Atletika Santiago", so it comes out that we are almost literally work colleagues. I have many (about 60) Latvian boys and girls, and you will understand that in order to do a good job with them I need almost all day. I work only with runners and obstacle runners. (In case you don't know, I myself finished my sports career as an obstacle runner, so that this kind of sport is dear to my heart). The results are not especially outstanding. Perhaps compared to the former standard they would be good. My best students had the following results: Jansons, 100 -- 10.5; 200 -- 21.5; Pilags, 47.9; Taurens, 800; Kukuska, 14.4, 51.1; Barbans, 15.1; Levicka, 2:06.9 and 55.6. This year I expect a few things from the ^{middle} distance runners Taurens, Jacis, and Paupa. They all do the 400-meter run in about 49.0 and they are actually 800-meter runners. I believe that at least one of them will achieve about the same results as Sandoyl^a from Chile.

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Then one may also expect a few things from the young people, especially Maris Gailis (that is not my son, as has been incorrectly stated here and there). He usually wins in all the youth contests. He could do the ^{1,500} ~~1500~~ in about 3:54.0 (last year it was 3:57.0), but he is still rather young and I don't want to push him too hard. You know very well what it means today to train for ^{middle} ~~middle~~ distances. Your training with Heberts was only a kind of warming up according to present standards. Isn't that so? I have several good girls on the 400 meter distance. Even today, Maija Otlane, Zigrida Medne, and Baiba Migla (that is the daughter of Vilhelms Migla who ran 800 and 1500), she does 400 meters in about 57.0 (a good result in 1957 was 58.3; 58.7; 58.3).

Our spring is just beginning and therefore we can only guess the results of the new season. We are giving most of our attention to speed and technique, but there is no proper place for training yet. It is not as in the country of the Andes, where you can train all year long without interruption wherever you like. I shall stop bragging about "my children" and shall tell you a few things about some other people.

You mentioned Burvis. He is now preparing for an examination to go to Paris. It is hard for him to get there, but it is possible. He is thin, tall (1.82), a real speed runner, without spurt. ⁽²⁾ Technically he is rather weak, but he has strong [word illegible.] He trains very indifferently (in the manner of ~~the~~ Zatopek), but very diligently

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and regularly. Sometimes his face becomes almost [word illegible], but he never gives in. He is quiet by nature and he is satisfied with everything. Further ^{you} ~~now~~ mentioned Kechris. ^[C] Physically he is well-developed, average build, 1.78. He is able to get ready at a moment's notice. He jumps well only several times a year but just then [several words illegible]. Graudulis (javelin) 14.50; Vaivads, 61.33. It is hard to say what they will achieve this summer, since they are members of the "Dinamo", and they train in a different place where I see them very seldom. Also Jaunzeme is a member of "Dinamo". It is hard to know for sure, but it seems to me that she will not have any outstanding results this summer. But we shall ~~live~~ and we shall see. Please remember me to Voldemars ^eBridis, Deksenieks, and other friends.

With best wishes

[Signature illegible]

* *Smarte* GAILIS

* FRIEND OF AESIDECAR/2

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